



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
ENERGY

**Richland Operations
Office**

DOE News Release

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Chief Joseph Middle School to Host Speaker from Hanford January 31

*Cameron Salony to speak to more than 200 students about
history and cleanup of Hanford Site*

RICHLAND, Wash. – The Department of Energy (DOE) will be the guest of Chief Joseph Middle School on Tuesday, January 31, in Richland, Wash. DOE's Cameron Salony, Communications Specialist for the Office of Communications and External Affairs, Richland Operations Office, will be the guest speaker.

The Hanford Site sits adjacent to the Columbia River in southeastern Washington and for over four decades was the primary producer of plutonium for national defense. The site stopped producing plutonium at the end of the Cold War in 1989 and began a new chapter of environmental cleanup.

Hanford's latest chapter is one of thousands of employees demolishing facilities, digging up contaminated debris and soil, remediating contaminated groundwater, building a treatment plant to isolate millions of gallons of tank waste, and placing former plutonium production reactors in a state of safe storage until they can be removed from the landscape.

Part of the presentation will include a demonstration of protective clothing that Hanford Site employees wear when they work with radioactive and hazardous materials.

Salony's speech is part of DOE's [Hanford Speakers Bureau](#), a regional outreach program where the department travels to communities in the Pacific Northwest and provides updates on the Hanford Site. In the last year alone, the Hanford Speakers Bureau has presented to more than 50 audiences and approximately 2,200 people.

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Note: Briefings will be given to three history classes between 11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. To cover this event, please contact Steve Aagaard, Communications Director, Richland School District, at (509) 967-6008, or steve.aagaard@rsd.edu.

